

We are most grateful to Mr. M. P. Stuart Irwin, for the loan of the extensive material in the National Museum, Bulawayo; to Mr. P. A. Clancey, for the loan of material from the Durban Museum, including all the Kenya specimens; and to Mr. T. Oatley, for the loan of the specimens of *E. signata* and of *E. quadrivirgata* from Zululand.

To conclude, *E. signata*, *E. quadrivirgata* and *E. barbata* may be regarded as distinct species forming a superspecies, in which *E. leucosticta* can probably also be included.

References:—

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- Clancey, P. A., 1960. Notes on geographical variation in the South African sub-continental *Erythropygia quadrivirgata* (Reichenow) populations. *Durban Mus. Novit.* 6 (2): 36-38.

## A record of Dunn's Lark in the Lebanon

by JAMES M. HARRISON

Received 6th October, 1961

On 20th April, 1961, Dr. R. E. Lewis, of the American University of Beirut Museum of Natural History, obtained an example of the southern and south-western Arabian lark, *Ammomanes dunni eremodites* Meinertzhagen, which had been shot on that day on the sands of Beirut International Airport.

Recognising the fact that this was an unusual bird, Dr. Lewis prepared the skin and brought the specimen with him to this country, generously presenting it to me.

The skin was compared with a good series of this species in the British Museum, Natural History, and was identified as belonging to the above form.

The specimen is an adult female and has the following measurements:—

W. = 88.5 (Type specimen = 86 mm.)

b., length from skull = 15.5 mm.

depth = 8.5 mm.

t. = 21.5 mm.

tl. = 51 mm.

This form was described by Colonel Meinertzhagen<sup>1</sup> in 1923, under the name *Pyrrhulauda eremodites* from a single specimen, an adult female obtained on 15th January, 1922, from Sheik Othman, Aden Protectorate. In his later work<sup>2</sup> the bird is placed by him in the genus *Ammomanes* as *A. dunni eremodites*.

This example would appear to be the first record for the Lebanon and the most northerly record for the species to date.

I would express my very grateful appreciation to Dr. Lewis for asking me to identify the specimen and for presenting it to me, and to Mr. J. D. Macdonald of the British Museum, Natural History, for facilities for comparing the specimen with series in the National Collections.

<sup>1</sup> Meinertzhagen, R., 1923. *Pyrrhulauda eremodites*, sp. nov. *Bull. B.O.C.*, XLIII., 156-157.

<sup>2</sup> Meinertzhagen, R., 1954. *The Birds of Arabia*, 131.